

London Office at THE SUN,
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All communications addressed to FRANK
M. SMITH, care of the London Office.

The Castle Garden Gate.
The Bureau of Statistics reports the arrival of 490,788 immigrants from over the water during the twelve months of the year 1889. Of this number, 335,553 landed at New York and entered the New Work through Castle Garden.

The figures show a falling off from last year, when 518,296 immigrants reached our various ports, and not less than 400,000 passed through Castle Garden. The total of immigration for 1889 is less by about a thousand than for 1888, thirty-five years ago, and of the past ten years, the highest point was reached seven years ago, when the total arrivals from Europe and Asia was 645,764 in the statistical year ending June 30, 1882.

The volume of immigration is an exceedingly unstable factor in the increase of our population. Its fluctuations are sudden and extensive. They depend upon such complex conditions here and abroad that it is not always possible to explain them, much less to foresee them before they occur.

There is, however, a tolerably steady and very significant change in the character of the immigration, as indicated by the statistics of nationality. We compare the figures for 1889 with those for the fiscal year 1881, when the total number of arrivals from European countries was 527,441.

	1881.	1889.
Germany	60,847	60,847
Sweden and Norway	72,463	64,410
Ireland	70,342	60,875
England and Wales	70,342	60,810
Austria-Hungary	27,075	27,075
Italy	13,987	13,987
Scotland	11,103	11,103
Switzerland	11,103	11,103
Russia and Poland	10,135	10,135
Denmark	8,217	8,217
Netherlands	5,927	5,927
France	5,927	5,927

This table affords material for study. As compared with 1881, the immigration from Germany, from the Scandinavian countries, and from Ireland, England, and Scotland, has greatly fallen off, while the immigration has greatly increased from Austria-Hungary, Russia, Poland, and Italy.

In change for better or for worse? Every observant New Yorker who is accustomed to watch the incoming stream as it flows up the streets in the lower part of this town after the arrival of a fleet of steamers can judge for himself.

The South Carolina Farmers.

The Executive Committee of the Farmers' Association of South Carolina has issued a long address attacking the management of the Democratic party in that State. The Farmers' Association is composed of Democrats, but the State officeholders do not belong to it, and the Legislature, especially the State Senate, is not controlled by it.

Ever since 1868 the farmers have been trying to control the Democratic State Convention, and they came very near doing so last year. Next May they will hold a Convention of their own, and nominate a State ticket which will be submitted to the Democratic State Convention. Apparently the farmers expect that their ticket will have to be taken by the other Democrats this time.

The announced purpose of the Farmers' Association is to "secure retrenchment and reform, and a recognition of the needs and rights of the masses." A recognition of the needs and rights of members of the Farmers' Association to hold office is implied, but not expressed. If the assertions of the address are true, the Democracy of South Carolina needs stirring up and a vigorous course of rotation in office. "South Carolina," we are told, "has never had a real republican government. Since the day of the Lords Proprietors it has been an aristocracy, under the form of a democracy, and whenever a champion of the people has attempted to show them their rights, and advocated those rights against the aristocratic oligarchy, it has bought him with an office, or failing in that, turned loose the floodgates of misrepresentation and slander in order to destroy his influence. The fear of division among us and the consequent return of negro rule has kept the people quiet, and they have submitted to many grievances imposed by the ruling faction because they dreaded to risk such a division."

There certainly used to be an oligarchy or aristocracy in South Carolina, and it produced many famous names, but the war put an end to it, except in so far as it may still cherish noble pretensions. In politics the names of some of the families that ruled the Palmetto State in the days when Cotton was King are still distinguished, but we must suppose that under the new conditions such distinction is the work of personal merit and not of inheritance. If, however, there are dry bones that need shaking up and cliques of officeholders that need the application of rotation, the movement of the farmers may deserve encouragement, although any attempt at political solidarity on the part of a single interest will be careful watching.

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In view of the remarkable political activity which has for some time been displayed by various organizations of farmers in the Southern States, it may be possible for the opponents of the Farmers' Association of South Carolina to show that by government by the people the association means government by its members.

This Country Can Make Its Own Ships and Guns.

The noticeable feature in the bidding for the three new gunboats is that it comes from competitors who have not yet undertaken a modern war ship. It furnishes a practical addition to the country's source of reliance for building its own navy. Two of the bidders, the Atlantic Iron Works of Boston and the Samuel L. Moore & Sons Company of Elizabethport, are new to these competitions, while the third, the Bath Iron Works, appeared for the first time last year in the proposals for the 3,000-ton cruisers.

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There are firms, also, that have in past times done Government work, like HARRIS & HOLMES, who built the Iron monitor Amphitrite, and others well known to builders of steel merchant ships. The Maine is divided among seven companies, in New York, Brooklyn, Boston, Pittsburgh, and Bethlehem. The 3,000-ton cruisers and other vessels at the navy yards employ for their machinery firms like the Tredegar Works of Richmond, and the Midvale Steel Works of Pennsylvania. The examination of boilers for war vessels brings out a large additional set of names, and the competition for small iron steamers, as tugs, still another.

Armor and guns of any required dimensions, and of the best class, can now be produced in this country. The contracts for steel forgings amounting to several million dollars, given to the Bethlehem Iron Company, established a plant of vast importance to the naval facilities of this country. The Midvale Steel Works and the Cambria Iron Works were its competitors, and the former has furnished many gun forgings to the Government. The West Point Foundry and the South Boston Iron Works are other sources of reliance in turning out guns, mortars, and other appliances. The Hotchkiss Company has established in the United States a factory for the express purpose of supplying its revolving and rapid-fire guns to the navy, while the Driggs-Schroeder establishment is also in the field working for the Government, with the Pneumatic Gun Carriage Company and others. Armored plating shells will soon be produced here. Two great Government gun factories have been founded, one for the navy at Washington, and the other for the army at West Troy, capable of assembling and finishing the forgings for the heaviest ordnance.

This country is now independent of all others for its defensive appliances of all sorts, whether they are to be used on the land or the sea. It has been said lately in England that we might have bought there ships and guns cheaper than we have made and are making them here. But the feeling of self-reliance and of patriotic pride in having accomplished within the short space of ten years the establishment of shipbuilding and gun-making industries equal to any in the world, is worth ten times the difference it may have cost. Still more important is the national security and the ability of this country to defend itself with its own resources, wherever the quarter from which an attack may come.

Some Remarks About Names.
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Proper names are to some extent a matter of taste, and as tastes differ widely, it can hardly be expected that the appellations given to persons and things will strike everybody as happy and appropriate. Sometimes, however, names are the result of accident. Anybody can find on the map of western Colorado an alleged settlement with the alluring name of Golden City. It is not a city at all, nor even a hamlet, the fact being that the region is entirely unfit for human occupancy. The name of Golden City was given to some of the families that ruled the Palmetto State in the days when Cotton was King are still distinguished, but we must suppose that under the new conditions such distinction is the work of personal merit and not of inheritance. If, however, there are dry bones that need shaking up and cliques of officeholders that need the application of rotation, the movement of the farmers may deserve encouragement, although any attempt at political solidarity on the part of a single interest will be careful watching.

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NEW COMFORTS FOR THE SOLDIER.

Notes on the Progress of the War in the South.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—The desire to improve the lot of the enlisted man and to make army service more attractive by removing minor causes of grievances was never more evident than now. It has shown itself practically in much cutting of red tape and in the abolition of regulations and regulations that have been too long in force, and in the adoption of new regulations to remove the causes of grievances. Two such changes have been made the present month in general orders from Army Headquarters. One declares that there is need of modifying the hours for meals and roll calls in the daily routine at garrisoned posts. Ordinarily there is to be no company formation for roll call at tattoo and fifteen minutes after the prescribed signal, all lights must be out and all noise and loud talking must cease; but taps are hereafter not to be sounded until 11 o'clock P. M. This change, welcome for its extension of the time for evening enjoyment, was made last November, and is very popular.

Again, the proposition of quarters at taps is to be made by first sergeants or other non-commissioned officers of the company, as company commanders may direct. This is a welcome change for the first sergeants, who were needlessly overworked by having to do this work themselves, so making every day a long one for them, whereas now they can be relieved of this duty by the first sergeants or other non-commissioned officers of the company, as company commanders may direct. This is a welcome change for the first sergeants, who were needlessly overworked by having to do this work themselves, so making every day a long one for them, whereas now they can be relieved of this duty by the first sergeants or other non-commissioned officers of the company, as company commanders may direct. 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